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County Borough of Blackpool



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1939

By

E. W. REES-JONES

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,
and Medical Superintendent of the
Infectious Diseases Hospital.



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MUNICIPAL HEALTH CENTRE,
WHITEGATE DRIVE,
BLACKPOOL.
December, 1940.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
of the Corporation of Blackpool.*

MR. MAYOR, MRS. QUAYLE AND GENTLEMEN,

In submitting my Annual Report for the year 1939, I have to apologise for its unusually late appearance, which has been occasioned by an avalanche of work devolving upon the Department owing to the outbreak of hostilities and a depletion of the permanent staff by being called upon to serve in His Majesty's Forces.

As this will be my last annual report, I should like to draw your attention to a retrospect of what has transpired in the Department since I was appointed as your Medical Officer of Health on the 6th October 1908 in succession to Dr. Francis J. H. Coutts who was appointed a Medical Inspector in the Foods Department of the Local Government Board.

In 1908 the estimated population was 59,741 and the birth rate for the year was 17·54. The earliest recorded birth rate for Blackpool is for the year 1878 when the population was 13,000 with a birth rate of 38·8.

The death rate in 1908 was 13·92 as compared with 20·4 for the year 1878.

The Population figure supplied by the Registrar General for the year 1939 is (for birth rate 128,200) (for death rate 134,700) ; this gives a birth rate of 10·6 per 1,000 and a death rate of 14·8 per 1,000.

I have previously commented on our low birth rate. It is low in comparison with the country as a whole, and is no doubt due to the percentage of married women of child-bearing age being comparatively small. We are lead to believe that the smaller number of children will mean improved prospects of their being reared in more hygienic surroundings and so reduce considerably the infantile mortality rate.

No true indication of the ramifications of the work of a Health Department can be given in a few introductory remarks. The changed conditions under which we are living at the present time obviously necessitate some alteration in the production of an annual report on the Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1939. In consequence the detailed and tabulated statements of the activities of the department have had to be curtailed.

In 1938 the Municipal Infant Welfare Centres were opened at Bispham and Hawes Side Lane.

On the 4th of May 1939, the New Municipal Health Centre was officially opened and the activities of the department further developed.

The Public Health Services in Blackpool during the past 20 to 30 years have made rapid strides and whilst there has been no relaxation in the control of hygiene, the sphere of activities has greatly enlarged in matters relating to personal hygiene. The Public Health Act 1936 has consolidated and brought up to date many acts and regulations which had been in operation for a great number of years.

I do not propose to comment upon the statistical data of the report which I commend for your serious perusal, therein you will find much of interest.

In conclusion I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the whole of the staff for their loyal support and the willing and efficient manner in which the work of the department has been carried out under my direction. We have at all times been greatly encouraged by the support given to us by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I remain,

Your faithful servant,

EDWARD WILLIAM REES-JONES.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Alderman	EDWARD STEVENSON, J.P. (Mayor from November 1939).
„	„ W. R. DUCKWORTH, J.P. (Mayor to November 1939).
„	„ J. R. QUAYLE, J.P.
„	„ TOMLINSON, J.P.
„ Councillor	ANDERSON (Senior) J.P.
„	„ BAILEY, J.P. (Chairman).
„	„ Dr. BAIRD
„	„ BOND
„	„ FAIRHURST (Vice-Chairman).
„	„ FURNESS
„	„ HILL, Jos.
„	„ HOLT, J.P.
„	„ HUDDART
„	„ MACHIN, J.P.
„	„ MOORE
„	„ OGDEN
„	„ PARKER
„	„ QUAYLE, MABEL A.
„	„ TALBOT (from November, 1939).
„	„ WHITTAKER, J. W. (to November, 1939).
„	„ WINSTANLEY

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Mr. Alderman	EDWARD STEVENSON, J.P. (Mayor from November 1939).
„	„ W. R. DUCKWORTH, J.P. (Mayor to November 1939).
„	„ J. R. QUAYLE, J.P.
„	„ TOMLINSON, J.P.
„ Councillor	BAILEY, J.P.
„	„ Dr. BAIRD
„	„ FAIRHURST
„	„ FURNESS
„	„ HILL, Jos.
„	„ HOLT, J.P.
„	„ MACHIN, J.P.
Mrs.	„ MABEL A. QUAYLE (Chairman).
Mr.	„ WINSTANLEY
Dr.	JAMES LONGWORTH
Mrs.	FARRELL
Mrs.	A. OLIVER
Mrs.	OATES
Mrs.	ROBINSON
Miss	O. WELLS

TUBERCULOSIS SUB-COMMITTEE.

Mr. Alderman	EDWARD STEVENSON, J.P. (Mayor from November 1939).
"	" W. R. DUCKWORTH, J.P. (Mayor to November 1939).
"	" TOMLINSON, J.P.
" Councillor	ANDERSON (Senior) J.P.
"	" BAILEY, J.P. (Chairman).
"	" FAIRHURST (Vice-Chairman).
"	" FURNESS
"	" HILL, Jos.
"	" HOLT, J.P.
"	" MACHIN, J.P.
"	" OGDEN
Mrs.	" M. A. QUAYLE
Mr.	" WINSTANLEY
Dr. H. E. MARTIN	
Mr. J. A. HURSTFIELD	
Mrs. A. OLIVER	

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :

E. W. REES-JONES, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health :

G. W. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.

ISABELLA A. MILNE, M.B., Ch.B., M.M.S.A.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Venereal
Diseases Medical Officer.

D. O'BRIEN, L.R.C.S., L.M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer.

Public Vaccinators :

H. L. LUCAS, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.

J. G. LOUDEN, M.B., Ch.B.

A. C. MILLER, M.B., Ch.B.

Consultant Aural Surgeon :

E. MILNE EATON, M.D., Ch.B.

Dental Surgeons (Part-time) :

J. B. ELTON, L.D.S.

T. B. PATTERSON, H.D.D., R.C.S., L.D.S.

Miss H. GARFORTH, L.D.S.

Pathologists :

Pathological work is carried out by the Pathologists at
the Manchester Public Health Laboratories, and the
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool.

Public Analyst :

T. R. HODGSON, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S. (Part-time).

Sanitary Inspectors :

*H. PRIESTLEY, Senior Inspector.

Assistants :

*J. TOLMAER

*A. E. FITTON

*E. SHUTTLEWORTH

*E. SMITH

*W. MOISTER

*C. H. WRIGHT

*T. ROWARTH

T. W. LOMAX (Pupil).

Meat and Foods Inspectors :

*H. V. DIXON

*W. RILEY (to 31st July 1939)

*L. H. SHEPLEY (from 1st August 1939)

Laboratory Technician :

*G. A. COX

Abattoir Superintendent :

*J. SHANKS (to 31st July 1939)

*W. RILEY (from 1st August 1939)

*Holders of Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Matron, Infectious Diseases Hospital :

Miss M. H. WHITAKER

Health Visitors :

*R. J. SAUVAIN

§†*F. E. AINSWORTH

†*J. GIBSON

§†*D. LEA

†*C. HILL

§†*W. WALSH

Municipal Midwives :

*G. DIXON

*M. HENCHER

†*L. HILL

*E. V. FISHER

†*A. G. JEFFREY

*F. H. C. SAVAGE

†*F. E. UMPLEBY

*A. PARKINSON

†*A. HAMBY

†*A. PEARSON

*B. STEPHENSON †*M. E. WILLIAMS (to 29th March 1939)

Infectious Diseases Nurse :

*†B. McCORMACK

Tuberculosis Nurses :

§†*M. PARKER

**†D. HARRISON

Venereal Diseases Clinic Nurse :

†*I. R. HARLEY

District Nurses :

†*A. B. WHITE

†**M. PARTINGTON

†L. ROBINSON

†*F. STEVENS

†B. ENGLAND

†*M. JOHNSON

*Fever Trained. *Central Midwives' Board Certificate.

§Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate. †General Trained.

Sunlight Treatment Clinic Nurse :

L. E. RICKMAN (Chartered Masseuse)

EDWARD SMITH, Chief Administrative Assistant.

Clerical Staff :

G. E. FIELDING, Cert.R.S.I. R. DOWLING

W. G. DIGGLE

S. LUND

G. BOOTH

D. H. TAYLOR

H. OLDHAM

J. RICHARDSON

R. PRYAR

Miss N. BROWN

Miss D. OATES

Miss E. LONGDEN

Miss T. MARSHALL

Miss D. BRADLEY

Meteorological Observer :

J. WILLIAMS

Vaccination Officers :

E. W. REES-JONES, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Northern Area).

J. A. JUMP (Southern Area).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (exclusive of foreshore)	8,512 acres
Area of Foreshore and Crown lands	2,068 acres
Number of inhabited houses	41,290
Number of empty houses	876

POPULATION :

Census, 1931	101,543
Corrected by Registrar General 1939 (for Birth Rate) ...	128,200
(for Death Rate) ...	134,700
Rateable value : Borough Rate	£1,678,642
Sum represented by a penny rate. Year to 31st March,	
1939	£6,543 6s. 0d.
The following is the density of the whole town ...	15·4 per acre.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	M.	F.
Births : Legitimate	1,360	698	662
Illegitimate	100	45	55
Birth rate	10·6 per 1,000		
Stillbirths	60	35	25
Do. (Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Stillbirths))	39·5		
Deaths	2,003		
Death rate	14·8 per 1,000		

Number of women dying or in consequence of child birth :

(a) From Sepsis	2
(b) From other causes	2

Maternal Mortalty Rate :—

	Puerperal Sepsis	Others.	Total
Blackpool : per 1,000 Live Births	1·35	1·35	2·7
per 1,000 total births	1·3	1·3	2·6
England and Wales : per 1,000 Live Births	0·77	2·16	2·93
per 1,000 Total Births	0·74	2·08	2·82
Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births			53·5
Death from Cancer (all ages)			284
Death from Measles (all ages)			1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)			2
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			7

Births.—During the year 1,460 births were registered as against 1,376 for the year 1938. These divided into sexes for the four quarters of the year were as follows :—

	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Total
Male	182	206	165	190	743
Females	145	186	211	175	717
Total	327	392	376	365	1460

The birth rate was 10·6 per 1,000 of the population and this figure is slightly less than that of the previous year, viz. 10·9. It is low in comparison with the country as a whole (15·0) and I have on many occasions commented upon our low birth rate. The explanation is to be found in the fact that in towns of the nature of Blackpool the percentage of women of child bearing age is comparatively small.

The illegitimate births numbered 100 and represented 6·8 per cent. of the total births.

ILLEGITIMATE RATES

	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929
Per 1,000 inhabitants	0·78	0·63	0·64	0·62	0·80	0·63	0·75	0·72	0·91	0·86	0·94
Per 1,000 Females of Conceptive Age ...	3·3	3·01	2·66	2·61	3·41	2·66	3·15	3·01	3·86	3·60	3·93
Per cent. Total Live Births ...	6·8	5·80	4·36	5·77	7·82	6·06	7·51	7·77	8·43	7·92	8·61

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths of Blackpool residents during 1939, whether within or without the Borough was 2,003.

The death rate for 1939 was, therefore, 14·8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13·35 in 1938.

COMPARABILITY OF CRUDE DEATH RATES :—

If the populations of all areas were similarly constituted their crude death rates (deaths per 1,000 population) could be accepted as comparative measures of the mortalities experienced by the several populations.

In practice, however, populations are not so constituted and the Registrar-General furnished a comparability factor for treatment of the crude death rate. In Blackpool that factor is 0·91 and in September 1940 the Registrar General intimated that his estimate of population at mid 1939 was (a) for birth rate 128,200, and (b) for death rate 134,700 and these figures have been used in calculations of statistics throughout my report.

The deaths divided into sexes for the four quarters of the year were as follows :—

	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Total
Males ...	273	223	215	240	951
Females ...	343	225	211	273	1052
Total ...	616	448	426	513	2003

The death rate for the year was 14·8 per 1,000 of the population. The comparison of this rate with other portions of the country is as follows :—

England and Wales	...	...	12·1 per 1,000
126 Great Towns ...	...	...	12·0 „
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	11·2 „
London ...	...	...	11·9 „
Blackpool ...	...	...	14·8 „

The percentage of the deaths in the various age groups, with similar figures for a series of previous years are as follows :—

Age Period	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929
Under 12 months ...	3.7	3.5	3.6	4.3	3.4	4.7	4.5	5.5	5.1	5.2	4.2
1 and under 5 years ...	1.0	1.5	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.6	2.2
5 and under 65 years ...	39.3	40.5	43.1	42.3	44.2	43.5	42.8	44.5	43.8	44.9	45.2
65 years and over ...	56.0	54.5	52.6	52.1	51.0	50.7	50.9	48.5	49.3	48.3	48.4

The Registrar has furnished a list of the causes of deaths, divided into sexes and age groups. The classification does not agree with the statistics compiled locally, and this will invariably occur where you have different persons allocating the causes and specifying which of the certified causes should take precedence.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLACKPOOL, 1939.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES	M	951	44	5	8	11	14	21	43	99	207	276	223
	F	1052	32	4	3	17	27	30	39	78	196	322	304
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
2 Measles	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	M	5	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	9	—	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Influenza	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	3	2
	F	23	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	1	7	8
7 Encephalitis lethargica	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	43	—	—	—	—	3	6	7	13	11	3	—
	F	23	—	—	—	—	5	7	4	5	1	1	—
10 Other tuberculous diseases	M	5	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	8	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	2	—	—	—
11 Syphilis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	M	121	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	15	41	35	22
	F	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	16	49	50	39

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	All											
			0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	
14 Diabetes	M F	17 26	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— 1	— 8	4 12	6 5	
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	M F	55 73	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 3	3 6	6 15	24 33	21 16	
16 Heart diseases	M F	295 312	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 3	1 2	4 7	23 11	63 43	117 116	87 130	
17 Aneurysm	M F	3 4	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	1 2	— 1	
18 Other circulatory diseases	M F	63 73	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	3 4	13 16	24 26	22 27	
19 Bronchitis	M F	28 25	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	3 1	11 1	5 9	6 14	
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	M F	34 31	5 2	1 —	2 —	— 1	1 3	— 1	3 2	4 2	11 7	3 7	4 6	
21 Other respiratory diseases	M F	12 8	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	2 1	3 2	4 2	2 2	
22 Peptic ulcer	M F	12 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	3 —	1 —	4 2	3 1	— —	
23 Diarrhoea (all ages)	M F	5 3	4 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	
24 Appendicitis	M F	5 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	2 —	— —	1 —	— 1	1 —	— 1	
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	M F	4 5	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 1	2 3	1 —	— —	
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	M F	3 14	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	1 5	— 5	1 4	
27 Other digestive diseases	M F	18 24	2 1	1 —	— —	— 2	1 —	1 —	2 2	1 3	5 5	4 6	1 5	
28 Acute and Chronic nephritis	M F	33 32	— —	— 1	— —	— —	1 1	— 3	2 1	8 6	7 9	9 9	6 2	
29 Puerperal sepsis	F	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
30 Other puerperal causes	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	M F	26 20	25 19	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	
32 Senility	M F	24 39	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 11	21 28	
33 Suicide	M F	12 9	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 3	— 1	2 1	5 1	2 3	2 —	
34 Other violence	M F	31 26	1 1	— 1	2 —	3 1	2 4	4 3	— —	4 —	6 5	5 4	4 7	
35 Other defined diseases	M F	74 82	5 4	— —	— —	2 5	2 6	1 4	10 3	9 15	10 19	19 17	16 9	
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	M F	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	

Tuberculosis was stated to be the cause of death in 79 instances, viz. :—66 cases of Tuberculosis of the respiratory organs and 13 of Tuberculosis of other parts of the body. This figure is five more than that for the previous year, and when the increase in population is taken into account, it will be noted that the death rate from this disease shows a slight decrease.

Cancer has again made its large toll upon our resident population, 284 deaths having been caused by this disease, and its allied condition—Sarcoma. Deaths from this disease are on the increase, the comparative figures between 1900 and the present year being 47 deaths and 284 deaths. In an attempt to reduce this scourge, the Government passed the Cancer Act in March of this year. By it, Local Authorities have to prepare schemes for diagnosis and treatment. Owing to the war, however, the provisions of the Act have been postponed.

Infantile Mortality.—There were 76 deaths of infants compared with 65 in 1938. The infantile mortality rate was 53·5 per 1,000 births compared with 47·2 in 1938. Throughout England and Wales the rate of infantile mortality was 50 per 1,000 births and in the 126 great towns it was 53.

Young Child Mortality.—In 1939 there were 20 deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years. The principal causes were :—

Diphtheria	...	...	3
Tuberculosis	...	...	5
Pneumonia	...	...	3
Other Violence	...	...	3
Remainder	...	...	6

Uncertified Deaths.—120 deaths were the subject of a coroner's inquest, while in 119 cases the death was registered without certification by a medical practitioner, or a coroner.

DEATHS UNDER ONE.—TOTAL.

CAUSES	YEAR		QUARTERS								FEEDING			No Information.	Mother employed away from home	Illegitimate.	
	Under 3 mths.	Total.	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Not Fed	Breast Fed	Hand Fed partly or entirely				
			Under 3 mths.	Total.	Under 3 mths.	Total.	Under 3 mths.	Total.									
1—Common Infectious Diseases (Measles, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough)	...	58	76	10	15	16	24	12	14	20	23	25	8	29	14	7	6
2—Diarrhoeal Diseases :— Diarrhoea, Enteritis and Gastritis
3—Congenital malformations
4—Premature Birth, Debility, Icterus etc.	...	41	44	8	10	12	12	8	8	13	14	24	3	9	8	4	2
5—Tubercular Diseases
6—Other Causes—Convulsions
Bronchitis
Pneumonia	...	3	7	...	...	1	5	1	1	1	1	...	1	6	...	1	2
Other Causes	...	8	15	2	4	1	4	3	3	2	4	1	2	8	4	2	2
TOTALS

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the past ten years.

1929 - 1939

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Smallpox	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	30	65	73	68	25	69	55	58	70	169	177
Erysipelas	27	40	30	34	27	38	28	52	27	44	44
Scarlet Fever	245	183	129	167	244	339	348	265	161	211	336
Enteric Fever	7	3	5	9	3	—	4	—	7	6	3
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	3 10	5 6	9 10	1 10	8 16	10 17	4 25	5 20	5 23	28	61
Measles	198	1748	284	1832	1296	886	204	2478	428	1430	441
Rotheln	18	22	9	327	20	20	12	75	13	35	29
Tuberculosis :— (a) Pulmonary ...	81	84	89	64	97	133	103	114	127	133	152
(b) Non-Pulmonary ...	17	14	16	12	32	58	32	46	56	60	78
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	3	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	2	7
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	3	8	6	7	9	12	14	16	9	10
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	1	—	—	1	2	2	1	—	1	—
TOTALS	663	2178	663	2531	1783	1582	829	3128	935	2128	1339

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of Infectious diseases in the town during 1939 has been on the whole satisfactory. It has only been possible to keep these diseases within their present confines by a very large amount of work of visiting and supervision of contacts.

Scarlet Fever.—336 cases, two deaths. 280 of the cases, or 83·3 per cent. were isolated at the Sanatorium. The present tendency is to reduce the Hospital Isolation of Scarlet Fever, both as regards the number of cases and as regards the duration of stay of the individual cases.

Diphtheria.—177 cases, fourteen deaths. All of the notified cases were treated.

PREVENTION OF DIPHTHERIA.

An Immunisation Clinic to deal mainly with pre-school children, was opened in July, 1935. During the summer of this year an intensive campaign was carried out amongst the school children. Fully fifty per cent. accepted treatment, and in all, 5,935 children were completely immunised. In addition since the Clinic opened in 1935, 854 children under five and 1,099 school children were immunised there. The figure includes 664 children under five and 784 school children immunised during the present year.

Measles.—441 cases, one death. 55 cases were treated in Hospital. This figure compares favourably with the 1,430 cases notified last year.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.—Sixty-one cases were notified to me. It is hoped that the pre-natal work carried out by us will have beneficial effect in anticipating and avoiding the dangers of parturition and that this will be revealed in the statistics of these diseases. Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia appear to be notified earlier and our assistance in their treatment sought. This naturally gives the patients a better chance of recovery.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Ten cases were notified and treated at the Sanatorium. All the cases recovered with unimpaired vision.

683 cases of **Chicken Pox** and 429 of **Whooping Cough** were reported to me mainly by the School Attendance Officers.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following paragraphs reporting upon the subject of Tuberculosis, have been prepared by the Tuberculosis Officer, and incorporated in the report are extracts from the official tabular reports prepared for the Ministry of Health. Though on the first glance these Government reports appear somewhat uninteresting in that they are a compilation of statistics, a careful study of them is valuable, as they indicate the wide scope under this branch of the social service.

The following table gives the analysis of the cases and deaths with reference to age and sex :—

TABLE I.

AGE PERIODS	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS				NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS			
	Notifications		Deaths		Notifications		Deaths	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
1 to 5	—	—	—	—	10	6	3	1
5 to 10	2	2	—	—	12	6	1	—
10 to 15	3	1	—	—	7	12	—	3
15 to 20	2	11	3	3	1	4	—	1
20 to 25	4	14	5	4	3	3	—	—
25 to 35	14	17	4	7	2	3	—	—
35 to 45	17	14	10	4	—	3	—	—
45 to 55	15	8	10	5	1	3	—	1
55 to 65	16	6	15	2	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	3	3	3	—	—	1	1	1
TOTALS ...	76	76	50	25	38	41	7	7

Notifications.—During 1939, the total number of cases of Tuberculosis notified was 231—152 Pulmonary and 79 Non-Pulmonary. Of these, 139 (100 Pulmonary and 39 Non-Pulmonary) were primary notifications, and 92 (52 Pulmonary and 40 Non-Pulmonary) were supplementary notifications, i.e., 19 from Death Returns; 4 posthumous notifications, 4 lost trace—returned, and 65 transfers from other areas. This last figure which comprises 28·1 per cent. of the total notifications for the year is of interest as showing how the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Borough is inflated by such a large percentage of patients coming to live in Blackpool for health reasons. In 1934, this figure was 29·8 per cent., in 1935, 26 per cent., in 1936 30·5 per cent., in 1937, 22·4 per cent., in 1938, 23·3 per cent.

Mortality.—During the year the number of deaths registered as Tuberculosis was 89 (75 Pulmonary and 14 Non-Pulmonary). Of this total the number of deaths certified as due to Tuberculosis who had not previously been notified as suffering from the disease was 23 (12 Pulmonary and 11 Non-Pulmonary).

It was not found necessary during the year to take any action under The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations or Section 62 of The Public Health Act, 1925, which deals with the compulsory isolation in cases of Tuberculosis.

Notification Register.—As in previous years a careful record of the movements of all patients has been kept. This assures that the Register at any time gives an accurate record of the known incidence of Tuberculosis in the Borough.

The following table shows the number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1939, the fluctuation of patients during the year, and the number remaining on at the end of the year under review. The number of deaths shewn in this table are the total number of deaths of persons on the Register and not those who actually died from Tuberculosis.

TABLE II.

		Remain- ing on Register 31/12/38	Notifi- cations including Inward Transfers	Died	Recov- ered	Trans- fers	Lost Trace	Remain- ing at 31/12/39
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Males	168	76	50	3	13	2	176
	Females	140	76	25	8	14	5	164
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Males	90	38	7	7	4	1	109
	Females	87	41	7	4	6	1	110
TOTALS ...		485	231	89	22	37	9	559

Home Visitation.—Except in cases where a desire to the contrary is expressed, all notified cases are visited by the Tuberculosis Officer or Nurses. During the year, the two Tuberculosis Nurses have worked full time, and the following visits have been paid by them :—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Totals.
Primary	144	79	223
Subsequent Visits ...	2,918	2,003	4,921
Contacts seen at home...	...	...	2,647
Visits to Observation Cases	...	...	61
Death Enquiries ...	...	...	42
			<hr/> 7,894

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer visited 49 patients at their homes. Of these 33 were paid in consultation with the patient's family doctor, and the remainder were to patients unable to attend the Dispensary.

The Dispensary.—This is the central element of our Scheme, and carries out the following important functions : (1) sorting of cases and recommendation for treatment, i.e., Sanatoria, Hospital, or Domiciliary with the patient's own medical practitioner ; (2) examination of suspected cases for medical practitioners ; (3) examination of contacts, and (4) treatment of certain cases.

The Tuberculosis Officer and a Tuberculosis Nurse are in regular attendance at the Dispensary which is held at the Municipal Health Centre each Tuesday and Friday afternoon. In addition, a special clinic is held every Monday afternoon for the examination of contacts and special cases by appointment.

During the year 833 cases, excluding contacts, were examined at the Dispensary, and there were 4,504 attendances. Of the 833 cases examined, 382 were new cases, and of these 107 were found to be definitely tubercular and 275 non-tubercular. 362, or 94·2 per cent., of the new cases, were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer by private medical practitioners as patients suspected of Tuberculosis. In each case a full investigation of the condition was made and a written, detailed report sent to the doctor giving the Tuberculosis Officer's diagnosis and suggestion for treatment. Early diagnosis of Tuberculosis is of vital necessity if the patient is to benefit materially or permanently by treatment, and this can only be obtained by close co-operation between Medical Practitioners and the Tuberculosis Officer. As shewn in the above figures this co-operation is extremely satisfactory and is definitely assisting towards that end.

The examination of contacts, especially children and adolescents, is of the most vital importance in a Tuberculosis Scheme, particularly with a view of preventing, if possible, the occurrence of tuberculosis, or, in the event of the disease being present, to make a diagnosis early when treatment may be expected to have most beneficial results.

During the year 163 contacts were examined and there were 640 attendances. Of these contacts examined for the first time 5 (3 males, 2 females) were found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and four children with non-pulmonary disease. Several children, however, were found to be suffering from the effects of sub-nutrition, debility and generally poor physical resistance, though not definite tuberculosis. These cases were kept under close observation, supplied with malt and oil, and if necessary with extra nourishment, as this type of patient is undoubtedly more prone to develop the disease. In addition, a few were given sunlight treatment with considerable benefit.

Twenty-two cases were written off the Dispensary Register during the year as cured, 37 were transferred to other towns, 9, were lost trace of, and 89 died.

Of the 559 cases on the Notification Register at the end of the year 92 per cent. were attending the Dispensary. The small number of patients who do not attend the Dispensary are private patients who, although notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, are attended by their own doctors and if necessary go to private Sanatoria. Reports on these cases are received from the doctors from time to time.

Sputum Examinations.—Specimens of sputum are examined in our own laboratory at the Municipal Health Centre, and during the year 788 examinations were made as compared with 867 in 1938, and of these 135 were found Positive for Tuberculosis.

X-ray Examinations.—During the year 354 X-ray examinations were made.

Sunlight Treatment.—This form of treatment is very essential in certain forms of Tuberculosis, and together with general hygienic treatment and increased nourishment, is extremely useful in improving the general physique of contacts and possible suspects. During the past year Sunlight Clinics were held every Monday and Thursday forenoon. With the equipment and time at our disposal only a limited number of cases can be dealt with.

During the year 145 patients—21 male, 36 female, and 88 children have been treated, and 2,175 exposures given. The results have been most gratifying, practically all the cases shewing a decided improvement in their general condition as well as in the local lesion.

Artificial Pneumo-Thorax Treatment.—All cases considered as possible subjects for this form of treatment are admitted to Meathop Sanatorium, or Crossley Sanatorium. There, after observation, if they are found suitable, the treatment is given. During the year 6 patients were so treated and after discharge continued to attend at Meathop Sanatorium, along with 4 others from the borough, at stated intervals for refills. Twelve other cases received treatment at the Elswick Sanatorium under an agreement with the Lancashire County Council.

Necessitous Cases.—Extra nourishment in the form of milk and eggs is supplied daily to suitable cases receiving domiciliary treatment, and the costs of surgical apparatus in non-pulmonary cases are met in whole or in part by the Health Committee according to the financial circumstances of the patient. During the year 122 patients received milk or milk and eggs daily.

Sanatorium Treatment.—The wards at the Sanatorium have continued in use throughout the year. In April, 1935, a further six beds were rented—making eighteen in all—from Meathop Sanatorium for use of patients from the Borough. These were kept occupied during the year. The following table shows the admission to various Sanatoria during the year :—

TABLE III.

	In Residence, 1st January, 1939	Ad- mitted during year	Discharged during year			Re- main- ing 31st Dec., 1939
			Im- proved	In Statu Quo	Died	
Blackpool Sanatorium ...	4	22	4	8	9	5
Liverpool Sanatorium ...	8	15	9	3	6	5
Crossley Sanatorium ...	4	12	4	1	2	9
Meathop ...	16	25	14	4	7	16
*Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic ...	2	—	2	—	—	—
Leasowe Children's Hospital ...	9	5	7	—	—	7
Papworth Hall ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Heswall Country Hospital ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Schatzalp Sanatorium, Switzerland ...	1	—	—	1	—	—
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool ...	—	1	—	1	—	—
Chestnuts Sana- torium, Preston...	3	—	1	2	—	—
Royal Liverpool United Hospital...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Alder Hey Hospital	—	1	—	—	—	1
Total ...	50	82	43	20	24	45

*In addition to above, 3 cases were admitted for re-examination during the year and kept in a few days each. It will be noted that the totals above do not exactly correspond with those in Table VI. In certain cases the patient is transferred directly from one Institution to another. In Table VI these are shown as continuous treatment whereas above they have been duplicated.

TABLE V

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st ...	449
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	57
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	33
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ...	56
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	4,504
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	224
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :—	
(a) Personal	41
(b) Other	321
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	49
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	5,025
10. Number of :—	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined ...	788
(b) X-ray examinations made	354
in connection with dispensary work.	
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above ...	Nil
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	190
(B) NUMBER OF DISPENSARIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment).	
Provided by the Council	One
Provided by Voluntary Bodies	Nil

TABLE VI.
RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AND OBSERVATION DURING THE YEAR IN INSTITUTIONS
(OTHER THAN POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS) APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	In Institu- tions on Jan. 1st. (1)	Admitted during the year. (2)	Discharged during the year. (3)	Died in the Institu- tions. (4)	In Institu- tion on Dec. 31st. (5)
No. of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for observa- tion	—	4	4	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—
	1	1	2	—	—
	Total ...	5	6	—	—
No. of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	24	36	32	11	17
	13	34	15	13	19
	1	—	1	—	—
	Total ...	70	48	24	36
No. of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis	3	1	3	—	1
	—	5	4	—	1
	8	4	5	—	7
	Total ...	10	12	—	9
GRAND TOTAL	50	85	66	24	45

TABLE VII.

RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF DEFINITELY TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution												Grand Totals
		Under 3 months *			3—6 months			6—12 months			More than 12 months			Totals
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	
Class T.B. minus	Quiescent ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	Not Quiescent ...	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8
	Died in Institution ...	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
Class T.B. Plus Group I	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Not Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3
	Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Class T.B. Plus Group II	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Not Quiescent ...	5	1	—	5	1	—	6	1	—	5	3	—	27
	Died in Institution ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	9
Class T.B. Plus Group III	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Not Quiescent ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
	Died in Institution ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTALS, PULMONARY ...		11	10	—	8	3	—	11	2	1	6	7	—	59

* Exceeding 28 days.

TABLE VIII.—(*continued*)

Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution												Grand Totals			
		Under 3 months *			3—6 months			6—12 months			More than 12 months				Totals		
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.		M.	F.	Ch.
Bones and Joints	Quiescent ... Not Quiescent ... Died in Institution ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 1 —	— — —	— 1 —	— — —	1 3 —	2 4 —
Abdominal	Quiescent ... Not Quiescent ... Died in Institution ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	1 — —
Other Organs	Quiescent ... Not Quiescent ... Died in Institution ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Peripheral Glands	Quiescent ... Not Quiescent ... Died in Institution ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
	TOTALS, NON-PULMONARY	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	7

* Exceeding 28 days.

Bacteriological Laboratory.—The following specimens were examined at the Municipal Health Centre :—

Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	...	...	...	...	6,079
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	...	...	789
Smears, etc., for Gonococci	...	...	...	...	421
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli, etc.	...	...	...	...	87
Total	...	...	...	...	7,376

The Sanatorium.—The number of cases of various diseases treated at the Sanatorium during the year will be seen in the following table :—

			Remaining in at end of 1938	Admitted during 1939	Discharged during 1939	Died during 1939	Average stay of non-fatal cases	Average stay of fatal cases	Remaining in at end of 1939
Scarlet Fever	...	M.	7	127	120	1	29	15	6
		F.	8	139	131	1	31	7	8
Diphtheria	...	M.	14	78	72	5	33	7	2
		F.	7	97	81	9	28	10	7
Enteric Fever	...	M.	—	2	1	1	66	10	—
		F.	1	1	—	2	—	12	—
Measles	...	M.	—	24	17	—	17	—	7
		F.	—	32	13	—	18	—	19
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	...	F.	—	15	14	1	26	10	—
Erysipelas...	...	M.	—	6	6	—	11	—	—
		F.	—	7	6	—	13	—	1
Phthisis	...	M.	—	16	8	3	26	10	5
		F.	4	6	4	6	28	23	—
Other Diseases	...	M.	6	143	139	4	14	11	—
		F.	7	198	194	2	10	3	2
Totals	...		54	891	806	35	—	—	57

Hospitals.—The Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Corporation are as follows :—

- 1.—One Hospital for general Infectious Diseases, Tuberculosis Cases and Maternity Cases, with an accommodation of 82 beds.
- 2.—One Hospital for Small Pox Cases, situated at Elswick, and used jointly by the Corporations of Blackpool, Preston, Lytham St. Annes and the Councils of the Fylde Districts.

The Ambulance facilities of the District are as follows :—

For Infectious Cases. One Motor Ambulance kept at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, together with one convertible Ambulance Van.

For Maternity Cases. One Motor Ambulance kept at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

For Non-infectious Cases. Three Motor Ambulances kept at the Fire Station.

One whole-time General and Fever-trained Nurse is employed by the Health Department, who carries out nursing of cases of Infectious Disease under the direct supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inquiries into cases of infectious disease and subsequent visits by Nurses or Inspectors	...	...	...	...	4,576
Houses disinfected after cases of Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	759
Houses disinfected after cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	92
Other premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	115
Isolation notices served upon householders	...	...	...	...	2,796
Isolation notices served upon School Managers	...	...	...	...	2,074
Isolation notices served upon School Attendance Officers...	...	...	...	...	2,074
Other notices to School Managers with regard to infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	1,945
Other notices to householders with regard to infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	1,945
Other notices to School Attendance Officers	...	...	...	...	1,945
Notices to Free Library with regard to infectious diseases...	...	...	...	...	2,650

General Hospital Provision.—There is one Voluntary Hospital named the Victoria Hospital within the Borough, the number of beds available being 200. A nominal allocation of these beds is as follows :—

Nature.	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Medical (Adults) ...	18	14	32
„ Surgical (Adult) ...	37	40	77
Obstetrical	—	18	18
Children (Medical, Surgical, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat)	—	31	31
Venereal	—	1	1
Ear, Nose and Throat (Adult)	3	3	6
Ophthalmic (Adult)	3	2	5
Private	18		18
Casualty Department	3		3
Sick (Staff)	9		9
Total ... ..	...	...	200

The General Superintendent of the Hospital has been good enough to supply me with the following tabular statements of the numbers of in- and out-patients during the year :—

Nature.	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Medical (Adult) ...	294	293	587
General Surgical (Adult) ...	702	841	1,543
Obstetric... ..	—	337	337
Children (Medical, Surgical, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat)	413	312	725
Venereal	2	5	7
Ear, Nose and Throat (Adult)	114	125	239
Ophthalmic (Adult)	56	26	82
Private	67	163	230
Totals	1,648	2,102	3,750

	Medical.	Surgical.	Totals.
*In-Patients	587	3,156	3,743

	Consultation Department	
	New Patients	Renewed Attendances
*Out Patients	10,719	18,915

* Excluding Venereal Diseases Department

Medical Relief by Public Assistance Committee.—Under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1929, this work was taken over by the Corporation, and for the purposes of brief description it may be referred to under the categories of outdoor and indoor medical relief. The Borough is divided into three districts, the Northern, Central and Southern. Drs. Lucas, Miller and Loudon are the Medical Officers of the Districts, respectively.

For the purposes of indoor medical relief under the provisions of the Local Government Act, the Corporation entered into a ten years agreement with the Lancashire County Council for the Infirmary at Kirkham to continue to be used for the treatment of Blackpool cases. The Institution is under the management and control of the County Council, and the area served by it comprises Blackpool, Lytham St. Annes, Kirkham, Poulton, Thornton, Fleetwood and the Fylde Rural District, with a combined area of 67,509 acres and a population of 170,625 (1931 census). The available accommodation in this Infirmary is as follows :—for men, 68 beds ; women, 69 beds ; children, 3 beds ; total, 140. In addition there is accommodation for 6 maternity cases.

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF OUT-RELIEF (NON-MEDICAL) ON
THE 31ST MARCH, 30TH JUNE, 30TH SEPTEMBER, AND 31ST
DECEMBER, 1939.

Quarter ended				Men	Women	Children	No. of families
31st March, 1939 :							
North ...	...	...		143	187	103	262
Central ...	...	...		129	175	90	253
South ...	...	...		120	212	78	257
Total ...	...	...		392	574	271	772
30th June, 1939 :							
North ...	...	...		119	149	86	220
Central ...	...	...		100	120	52	198
South ...	...	...		101	188	77	224
Total ...	...	...		320	457	215	622
30th September, 1939 :							
North ...	...	...		124	166	84	244
Central ...	...	...		99	146	64	217
South ...	...	...		105	190	82	233
Total ...	...	...		328	502	230	694
31st December, 1939 :							
North ...	...	...		158	200	95	296
Central ...	...	...		156	192	75	292
South ...	...	...		136	201	90	259
Total ...	...	...		450	593	263	647

FOXTON DISPENSARY, 1939.

		Surgical		Medical		Total
		Males	Females	Males	Females	
Out-Patients	...	5	14	548	771	1338

District Nurses.—Six district nurses are now employed by the Health Department of the Corporation and their whole time is occupied in district nursing amongst the sick poor of the town. During the year it was necessary to employ an additional nurse temporarily owing to pressure of work. As far as possible they act under the instructions of the medical practitioners in attendance upon the cases, but in many instances, such as those of chronic bedridden cases, doctors are not in attendance, under which circumstances the nurses have to receive their instructions from me or to act according to their own judgement. Their services have been much utilised, and in carrying out their valuable work the large total of 18,434 visits were paid by them.

Ladies' Sick Poor Association.—About 1,882 cases were visited and relieved by the ladies of this Association during the year. The help takes the form of meat, eggs, groceries, clothes, boots, loan of bath chairs, etc., £938 7s. 6d. being expended for this purpose during the year. In addition, the Association expended the sum of £33 5s. 7d. for the maintenance of eleven cases in Convalescent Homes.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

In accordance with Clause (b) of Section 2 of the Local Government Act, 1929, the functions relating to Vaccination were transferred to the Town Council to be discharged by the Public Health Department.

Your Medical Officer of Health is the Chief Public Vaccination Officer. As and from the 1st April, 1932, the Medical Officer of Health took over the duties of Vaccination Officer for the Northern Section of the town on the retirement of Mr. Rees. Drs. Lucas, Loudon and Miller are now the three Public Vaccinators.

The following are details extracted from the Annual Return which I have forwarded to the Registrar-General, and relate to the year 1st January to 31st December, 1938 :—

Number of live births returned in Birth List Sheets as registered from 1st January to 31st December, 1938...	1369
Number successfully vaccinated	237
Number insusceptible of Vaccination	6
Number in respect of whom Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection have been received	857
Number who died unvaccinated	63
Number postponed by Medical Certificate	14
Removals to other Districts the Vaccination Officers of whom have been apprised	65
Removal to places unknown	92
Number of these births remaining on 31st January, 1940 neither duly entered in Vaccination Register nor temporarily accounted for in Report Book	35

From the above figures it will be observed that only 17·3 per cent. of the total number of live births returned during the year 1937 were successfully vaccinated, whilst no less than 62·6 per cent. made statutory declaration of conscientious objection.

Of the 237 successfully vaccinated during the year, 166 are of children in the Northern Area of the Borough of which your Medical Officer of Health is the Vaccination Officer. Every opportunity is taken of impressing upon mothers attending the Clinics the necessity of having their children vaccinated and I hope that by continued propaganda by my Assistant Medical Officer, we shall continue year by year to increase the number of those vaccinated successfully.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The work carried out under this branch of our Social Service is of a varied nature, and it may be reported on under various headings as follows :—

Inspection of Registered Midwives.—There are on the Register 24 midwives in private practice. They are visited at least four times annually, one of these occasions being by the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer, and their bags, appliances, registers, etc., supervised. A total of 96 visits have been paid throughout the year, and the midwives have all been kept posted up in any new requirements of the Central Midwives' Board.

It is very gratifying to report that the relationship and co-operation between the Midwives and the Officers of the various Clinics is of the happiest. Arrangements are in operation whereby Midwives are compensated in cases where they are temporarily suspended for the purposes of disinfection, or where their patients are taken into the Maternity Home.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

There are eleven Municipal Midwives employed by the Corporation under the Midwives' Act 1936. Full details of this Scheme may be found in the Report for 1938.

During the year they attended 276 cases as Midwives and 95 cases as Maternity Nurses.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME—EMERGENCY MATERNITY HOME PROVISION.

Prior to the outbreak of hostilities arrangements were made for the reception of expectant mothers from Manchester, Salford and Liverpool. With the evacuation on the 30th August, 1939, thirteen establishments, mainly large Boarding Houses, were equipped as Maternity Homes and one as a Maternity Hospital, with a total bed accommodation of 500. At the 31st December, 1939, 1,172 evacuees had been confined.

Between September and the end of December, 1939, as evacuation fell off it was found possible to release most of these premises, and by the end of the year only three Homes were necessary and in use, with a total bed strength of 120. During the peak period the necessary extra medical and nursing staff was provided by the evacuating authorities.

Ante-Natal Supervision.—This comprises visitation by the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer or the District Health Visitors, and the Clinics held on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday and Friday afternoons. The total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year was :—

Ante-Natal	...	...	1603
Post-Natal	...	...	130

Dental Treatment.—A scheme is in operation whereby the Medical Officer in charge of the Ante-natal Clinics, may send patients to one of three dentists, appointed by the Health Committee, for dental treatment, which the patient could not otherwise have afforded. The number sent for dental treatment during 1939 was 98. The actual cost to the Corporation for the service during 1939, was £176 10s. 6d.

Provision of Home Helps.—During the year 74 applications were received for the services of Home Helps.

Provision of Medical Assistance or Attendance of Midwife at Confinement.—Financial help was given by the Health Committee as follows :—

Full doctors fees	...	...	77 cases
Part doctors fees	...	...	47 cases
Full Midwives fees	...	...	Nil
Part Midwives fees	...	...	3 cases

PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR MATERNITY CASES.

There was a total of 499 patients admitted to the Maternity Wards during 1939.

Of the above 499 patients treated during the year, 53 were treated by arrangement with private nursing homes, and 54 were admitted to the Emergency Maternity Homes under the Government Evacuation Scheme.

Number of cases by (a) Midwives	...	...	...	...	454
(b) Doctors	...	...	...	...	45
Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a Midwife in an emergency	...	...	...	...	72
Number of cases notified as (a) Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	9
Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	8
Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the Institution	...	...	...	...	33
Number of cases notified as Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	12

Among the Cases dealt with in the Maternity Homes the following abnormalities were met :—

Caesarean Section	...	...	...	5
Forceps Delivery	...	...	...	21
Ante-Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	...	8
Albuminuria	...	...	...	18
Anaemia	...	...	...	4
Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	50
Adherent Placenta	...	...	...	2
Breech Delivery	...	...	...	9
Hyperemesis Gravidarum	...	...	...	5
Mastitis	...	...	...	1
Premature Labours	...	...	...	11
Pyelitis	...	...	...	3
Ante-Natal rest	...	...	...	8

In addition to the above, 47 cases of abortion were admitted and treated.

Infant Welfare Clinics.—Medical and nursing advice has been given to the mothers, milk has been provided in suitable cases free or at cost price, the babies have been weighed and examined, and records kept of their progress. 8,989 packets of dried milk have been dispensed at the Clinics, in addition 23,583 gallons of pasteurised milk were supplied.

The total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were :—

(1) under one year of age	...	...	952
(2) between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	399

The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who at the end of the year were :—

(1) under 1 year of age	...	...	816
(2) over 1 year of age	...	...	1408

Home Visiting.—During 1939 the following visits were paid by the Health Visitors :—

(1) To expectant mothers—

First Visits	...	...	1885
Total Visits	...	...	6714

(2) To children under 1 year of age—

First Visits	...	...	1535
Total Visits	8585

(3) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years—

Total Visits	17990
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Orthopaedic Scheme.—The Health Committee became participants in the orthopaedic scheme of the Lancashire County Council towards the end of 1928, and 21 cases were referred to the Orthopaedic Specialist during the year.

Registration of Nursing Homes.—Thirteen Nursing Homes were on the register at the end of 1939. No orders have been made refusing registration.

The following is the list of the Registered Homes together with the number of beds available :—

NAME OF HOME	BEDS		
	Maternity	Others	
22, Moore Street ...	5	4	10 beds allocated as required
46, Sherbourne Road ...	3	8	
230, Hornby Road ...	3	7	
26, Leys Road ...	5	2	
160, Reads Avenue, and Annexe ...	4	3	
412, Lytham Road ...	2	6	
36, Montpelier Avenue	3	—	
486, Lytham Road ...	2	3	
333, Lytham Road ...	—	1	
16, Dorchester Road ...	2	—	
35, Fenton Road ...	2	—	
254, Waterloo Road ...	—	8	
128, Red Bank Road ...	6	5	
TOTAL HOMES ON REGISTER ... 13	37	47	

Infant Life Protection.—168 Visits were made during the year and Dr. Milne reports a considerable improvements in the conditions existing in the homes where these children are cared for.

Number of Children on Register, end of 1938 ...	50
Number of applications received during 1939 ...	43
Number of applications granted by Health Committee ...	43
Number of applications not granted ...	—
Number of Children returned to parents during year ...	38
Number of Children adopted legally during the year ...	4
Number of Children who died during the year ...	—
Number of Children who attained the age of nine years ...	3
Transferred to other towns and Institutions ...	6
Number of Children remaining on Register at the end of 1939 ...	42

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Ten cases were notified during the year. All the cases were removed to the Sanatorium for treatment, and all recovered without any impairment of the sight.

Dental Work for Children.—This treatment has been carried out as previously by the local Dental Surgeons, appointed part-time by the Health Committee. During the year 122 extractions have been made from 38 patients. The actual cost to the Corporation for the work was £15 5s. 0d.

Birth Control Clinic.—Patients attending this Clinic are those suffering ailments of a major nature, which make a further confinement a danger to their lives. There were 15 first visits and 81 re-visits paid to the Clinic.

Investigation of Maternal Deaths.—These investigations have been carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer. The Registrar-General has allocated four maternal deaths to Blackpool : two due to sepsis, and two to other conditions. As there were 1,460 births during the year (including live and still births) this gives a maternal mortality rate of 2·7.

Light Treatment Scheme.—In July 1939 a complete new Light Treatment Centre was opened. It consists of a Solarium containing 16 Mercury Vapour Lamps, Two Duo Therapy Light Units established in Cubicles, and one Kromayer Mercury Vapour Lamp.

Since the Unit was established 440 cases have been treated, and these have made 5,386 attendances.

Treatment is given to Tuberculosis cases, and to Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. It is too soon yet to assess the benefits, but many of the patients show a marked improvement in general health.

An analysis of the patients treated is given below :—

LIGHT TREATMENT SCHEME—1939.

M. & C.W.

ANTE-NATAL—

Ultra Violet Light	...	...	...	...	...	113
Radiant Heat	25

POST-NATAL—

Ultra Violet Light	51
Radiant Heat	58

MASSAGE	28
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GYNAECOLOGICAL CASES—

Kromayer Lamp	31
General Ultra Violet Light	36

BABIES—

Ultra Violet Light	...	...	...	...	...	1851
Massage	...	...	...	...	...	186

TODDLERS—

Ultra Violet Light	...	...	...	...	...	1
Radiant Heat	...	...	...	...	...	27

TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

General Ultra Violet Light	2041
Radiant Heat	140
Special Kromayer Lamp	798

Total Attendances	5386
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Weakly Babies.—During the year, and in so far as accommodation was available, a number of infants have been admitted to the Sanatorium for such conditions as feeding and nutritional disorders, and the following is a list of such cases during 1939 :—

Ophthalmia ...	...	...	...	10
Circumcision ...	...	...	...	—
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	5
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	3
Prematurity ...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	—
Other Conditions ...	...	...	...	45
				—
	Total ...		...	65
				—

This service has been of much value and has been highly appreciated by the parents of the children.

TABLE SHEWING VISITS, ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS, MILK SUPPLY, ETC.

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
(A) VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.										
<i>Births</i> : First Visits	1109	1075	1126	994	1314	1188	1294	1261	1204	1535
Subsequent Visits	4499	3749	3152	2760	4656	5966	5355	5648	5841	7050
<i>Expectant Mothers</i> : First Visits	275	310	293	330	518	652	652	696	728	1885
Subsequent Visits	1855	1941	1882	954	1831	2129	2216	2148	2417	4829
Stillbirths	48	41	35	39	63	50	57	44	60	48
Deaths	49	32	39	30	65	49	53	60	39	43
Puerperal Fever	5	11	15	26	14	8	14	4	5	30
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	58	6	—	21	9	17	63	16	4	5
Midwives	145	229	158	148	177	184	194	224	190	90
Female Outworkers	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Children other than newly-born	2057	1606	2471	4062	8461	10380	10386	10567	10905	17990
TOTALS	10104	9000	9171	9364	17108	20625	20284	20668	21393	33505
(B) ATTENDANCES AT CLINIC.										
<i>Expectant Mothers</i> : First Visits	49	187	418	462	608	694	1064	871	828	1767
Subsequent Visits	241	117	2248	2040	2952	3066	3930	3820	4594	6994
<i>Children</i> : First Visits	726	647	705	642	762	1044	982	714	947	1486
Subsequent Visits	16706	7635	8528	8906	11095	13682	16327	14889	16027	20057
TOTALS	17722	8586	11899	12050	15417	18486	22303	20294	22396	30304
(C) SUPPLY OF DRIED MILK, PACKETS.										
Supplied Free	9425	2848	438	2472	1631	3824	5633	1368	976	771
At reduced charge	5602	2302	767	2550	2229	5054	7262	3317	2976	3206
At nett actual cost	1631	327	380	1163	672	1242	2289	997	1282	2403
TOTALS	16658	5477	1585	6185	4532	10120	15184	5682	5234	6380
(D) PROVISION OF MIDWIVES AND DOCTORS.										
Full Midwife's fee granted	6	7	12	15	40	56	68	44	6	—
Half Midwife's fees granted	25	27	37	14	40	48	43	25	20	3
Full doctor's fee granted	16	7	16	30	24	83	31	60	70	77
Half doctor's fee granted	3	5	7	15	20	30	63	60	37	47

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ENTRANTS INTO THE MUNICIPAL SERVICE.

During the year 2,236 examinations were carried out, a decrease upon 1938 of 187.

VENEREAL DISEASES SCHEME.

Clinics are held each day of the week—four Clinics for Males and two for Females, at the Municipal Health Centre. Full details of the Scheme were given in the Annual Report for 1938.

During the year 440 new cases were seen, of which 274 were found to be suffering from one or other of the Venereal Diseases.

The following table gives the Return relating to all persons treated during 1939 :—

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

		1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
NEW CASES ...	SYPHILIS ...	82	48	56	60	41	39	44	35	36	33
	Female	49	24	21	52	18	20	36	33	23	30
	GONORRHOEA ...	272	198	209	240	195	189	191	154	192	170
	Male	31	34	30	41	58	34	48	29	39	41
CURED ...	Female	149	116	88	103	116	113	98	104	126	88
	Others ...	36	30	24	7	48	45	65	46	41	78
	TOTALS	619	450	428	503	476	440	482	401	465	440
	Male	24	12	17	12	19	5	10	7	4	1
CEASED ATTENDING BEFORE COMPLETION OF TREATMENT	Female	12	8	6	1	5	1	6	8	3	1
	GONORRHOEA ...	155	105	126	65	52	69	85	48	84	32
	Male	20	13	18	4	11	6	16	9	10	5
	Others ...	9	111	88	76	136	119	99	105	124	80
NON-RESIDENTS INCLUDED IN ABOVE ...	Female	—	35	23	6	44	53	63	46	48	46
	TOTALS	220	284	278	164	267	253	279	223	273	165
	Male	83	46	62	95	66	43	43	70	61	47
	Female	38	35	27	44	27	21	36	37	29	29
ATTENDANCES	GONORRHOEA ...	130	111	118	211	253	230	200	203	176	211
	Male	19	12	19	47	39	36	36	46	21	38
	Others ...	1	1	—	3	4	1	2	—	—	2
	Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NON-RESIDENTS INCLUDED IN ABOVE ...	TOTALS	271	205	226	400	389	331	317	356	287	327
	SYPHILIS ...	51	30	43	36	24	23	16	33	31	26
	GONORRHOEA ...	104	103	94	136	133	121	62	85	115	50
	Others ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ATTENDANCES	TOTALS	155	133	137	172	157	144	78	118	146	76
	To Medical Officers ...	7269	5791	5437	7059	7046	6900	7028	6076	6397	5455
	Irrigations, etc. ...	13696	11751	10177	17294	14746	14475	16651	13338	17860	12165
	TOTALS	20965	17542	15614	24353	21792	21375	23679	19414	24257	17620

CREMATION.

The new Crematorium at Carleton was opened in September, 1935, and in accordance with Statutory Rules and Orders, M.1016, your Medical Officer of Health, was appointed Medical Referee, and your Tuberculosis Officer was appointed Deputy Medical Referee.

The number of certificates issued during 1939 was 348.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

Water Supply.—This is under the jurisdiction of the Fylde Water Board. The water is an upland surface water of a soft nature. The gathering ground is a good one, and is thoroughly safeguarded from all risk of animal pollution, and the water is now laid on to every inhabited part of the Borough.

Samples are taken for bacteriological analysis, and the Engineer to the Board has been good enough to furnish me with the reports received during the year. All the samples were satisfactory.

SEWERAGE OF THE BOROUGH.

The Sewerage System was fully described in the Annual Report for 1938.

In the Borough there are 58,381 water closets and 360 pail closets. There are only 3 cesspools emptied regularly by the Cleansing Department, but in outlying parts of the district a large number of unsatisfactory Septic Tanks exist. These have overflows into watercourses which give rise to insanitary conditions. During the year 10 of these were abolished and the drainage of the houses connected to the public sewers. The rate of progress in this connection with further conversions is dependent upon the construction of the new sewers in the northern and southern portions of the Borough, but there is little hope of much work being done during the War.

Scavenging.—This is carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation.

I am informed by the Director of Public Cleansing that refuse was removed from all premises weekly, whilst during the season a daily collection was carried out from hotels, hydros, restaurants, and larger boarding-houses, and from the ordinary company-houses the refuse is removed from two to three times a week. With a modification requisite for meeting the reduced demand in connection with company-houses, this system is maintained during the winter months. The refuse collected is dealt with at the Refuse Disposal Works, and during the year this amounted to 34,351 tons, whilst in addition 9,261 tons were tipped away, and 1,167 tons of nightsoil were removed.

With regard to the inspection of ash-receptacles by the Health Department, the following work has been carried out :—

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS MADE :—

Satisfactory ash receptacles	...	...	...	...	214
Unsatisfactory ash receptacles	...	...	...	...	779
Re-inspections of houses under notice	...	...	...	...	812

TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED :—

		Preliminary	Statutory
To provide galvanised ashbins	...	678	4
Total number of ashpits abolished	...	—	—
„ „ informations laid	...	603	—
„ „ galvanised ashbins provided	...	805	—

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—This is under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who has submitted to me the following statistical statement of the work carried out by him and his assistants.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	901
VISITS AND INSPECTIONS (TOTAL)	19,240
Number of houses fully inspected :—	
(a) New houses	1,937
(b) Old houses	380
(c) Basement tenements	—
(d) Temporary structures	9
Number of inspections of works in progress	2,604
Visits to houses and other premises	4,152
Visits by Inspectors re Housing Survey	474
Re-inspections in relation to nuisances under notice	5,229
Inspections of basements	257
Inspections of manure heaps	324
Sands inspection	—
Enquiries into deaths	23
Smoke observations (half-hour duration each)	21
Visits to temporary structures	127
Inspections of back passages	53
Offensive trades	159
Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Order	494
Inspections of Common Lodging Houses	442
Inspections of Factory and Workshops	572
Inspections of Bakehouses	816
Visits by Inspectors in relation to the Infectious Diseases	94
NOTICES SERVED FOR THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES :—	
Statutory	214
Preliminary	625
Verbal	248
HOUSE DRAINS TESTED—Total number of tests made	2,264
NEW HOUSES EXAMINED :—	
Drains } satisfactory	1,012
} unsatisfactory	65
} rendered satisfactory after first test	31
OTHER HOUSES (1st test) satisfactory	34
Drains unsatisfactory	298
House drains re-tested during re-laying	685
Final Test satisfactory	139
NUMBER OF HOUSES WHERE SANITARY DEFECTS WERE FOUND	977
NUMBER OF HOUSES WHERE SANITARY DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	552
NUMBER OF SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED	1,761

DRAINS :—

Drains laid, re-laid, disconnected, and ventilated	...	55
Drains repaired and cleaned out	... ..	679
New Gullies fixed	... ..	7
New w.c's fixed in lieu of privies, pail closets, and defective w.c's	... ..	44
Water closets repaired	... ..	36
Water closets unblocked	... ..	5
Fittings and water provided for w.c's	... ..	26
W.C. soil pipes repaired and ventilated	... ..	23
Cesspools abolished	... ..	—
Pail Closets provided	... ..	—
Privies abolished	... ..	3
Privies reconstructed into Pail Closets	... ..	—
Pail Closets abolished	... ..	—

WASTE PIPES :—

New slopstones waste pipes fixed	... ..	10
New rainwater pipes fixed	... ..	10
Rainwater pipes and roof gutters repaired	... ..	59
Slopstone waste pipes repaired	... ..	20

MISCELLANEOUS :—

Houses cleansed and lime-washed	... ..	6
Houses disinfested (Hydrogen Cyanide Gas, 119 ; Special Methods, 221 ; Sulphur, 8 ; Other Methods, 54)	... ..	402
Floors laid or repaired	... ..	62
Back Yards repaired	... ..	47
Back Yards flagged, concreted or asphalted	... ..	—
Accumulations removed	... ..	66
Animals removed from improper situations	... ..	3
Roofs repaired	... ..	66
Rooms ventilated	... ..	37
Yards cleansed	... ..	6
Watercourses cleansed	... ..	9
Manure Receptacles Abolished	... ..	—
do. Provided	... ..	—
Sundry minor defects remedied	... ..	482
Number of manholes, gullies, etc., reported to Director of Cleansing	... ..	—
Back Streets requiring forming reported	... ..	24
Erections in yards, etc., reported	... ..	7

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories— (including Factory Laundries)	257	13	—
Factories— (including Laundries) ... Without Mechanical Power.	313	16	—
Other Premises—(other than Outworkers Premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ... Without Mechanical Power)	817	—	—
TOTAL	1387	29	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects					Number of Prosecutions
	Not Remedied 1938	Found	Remedied 1939	Not Remedied 1939	Referred to H.M. Insp'r	
NUISANCES UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 (Secs. 1 to 7) :—						
Want of cleanliness	12	238	212	38	—	—
Want of ventilation	2	2	1	3	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—	—
Defective Drains	—	1	—	1	—	—
Other nuisances	17	11	3	25	—	—
Sanitary } insufficient	7	4	1	10	—	—
Accommo- } unsuitable or defective...	4	27	16	15	—	—
dation } not separate for sexes ...	4	—	1	3	—	—
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT :—						
*Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses (ss.97 to 100)...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	3	—	—	3	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to out- work, which are included in Part 3 of this Report).						
TOTAL	49	283	234	98	—	—

*Repealed now under Food & Drugs Act 1938.

3.—HOMework.

NATURE OF WORK (1)	OUTWORKERS' LISTS SECTION 107					
	Lists received from Employers					
	Twice in the year			Once in the year		
	Lists (2)	Outworkers		Lists (5)	Outworkers	
		Contrac- tors (3)	Work- men (4)		Contrac- tors (6)	Work- men (7)
Wearing Apparel :— Making, etc. ...	... 5	5	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc. —	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	... 5	5	—	—	—	—

Inspections of Outworkers' premises 5
 Addresses of Outworkers received from other Authorities ... 3
 Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Authorities ...—

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s.131) at the end of the year.							Number
Important class of Workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	{	Making of wearing apparel	...	...	...	157
		Workshop bakehouses	...	...	...	220
		Preparation of other foods	...	...	...	7
		Building Trades	...	...	...	60
		Furniture making, etc.	...	...	...	28
		Conveyances	...	...	...	37
		Other Trades	...	...	...	92
		Laundry Workshops	...	...	...	—
Total number of workshops on Register						601	

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act, Sec. 133	8
Other... ..	1

It will be observed from the preceding tables that 1,387 visits were paid by the Inspectors during the year, and the sanitary conditions have been kept under close supervision. This total includes 817 visits to workplaces, but not the visits to slaughter-houses. 283 defects were detected, 49 were still requiring attention at the commencement of the year, and of these 234 were remedied, leaving 98 still requiring attention at the commencement of 1940. Circular letters were sent out at the beginning of February and August, asking for lists of outworkers. The premises of the outworkers were visited during the year, and were found in a satisfactory condition. There are not any premises within the Borough where Rag Flock is manufactured.

Offensive Trades.—The following exist in the Borough :—

Blood Drier at Public Slaughter house	...	...	1
Tripe Boilers at Public Slaughter house	...	...	2
Gut Scraper at Public Slaughter house	...	...	1
Hide, Skin and Fat Depots	„	...	2
Rag and Bone Depots	„	...	4
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	...	...	140

The business of a “ fish fryer ” was scheduled as an offensive trade under a Declatory Order which came into operation on the 13th March, 1914, when licences were granted without limit of time. Under the Blackpool Improvement Act, 1925, licences were granted for the establishment of the business for a period of 12 months only. In 1930, a Declatory Order was made, and from the 26th April of that year “ Chip Potato ” Frying was scheduled as an offensive trade.

The number of businesses in each category was as follows :—

Pre-1914.	Already established	...	...	79
1914-1925	Without limit of time	...	...	39
1925-1938	Subject to yearly renewal	...	...	22
TOTAL				140

During the year 6 new applications were dealt with and all were disapproved ; consent was given to 22 renewals of existing licences. The nett increase in the number of licences was nil, the total now being 140.

Common Lodging-Houses.—Under the Blackpool Improvement Act, 1901, sec. 47, the common lodging-houses, previously existing were re-registered. These houses, with their accommodation, are as follows :—

Eden Street : 160 adults and 1 child.
Seed Street : 56 adults and 1 child.

442 visits of inspection were paid, and it was found on the whole that the lodging-houses were kept in a clean condition, and managed satisfactorily.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.—Consistent and regular action has been taken in dealing with all complaints of rat-infested premises, and the method of extermination has been principally by poisoning, use of traps, dogs and ferrets, and gassing.

No. of premises dealt with 123
No. of rats caught by dogs, ferrets and traps ... 77

No proceedings were instituted under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

Verminous Premises.—During the past year there has been a decrease in the number of houses treated for vermin infestation, i.e., 402 houses disinfested.

The fumigation of verminous properties has been the subject of three special reports to the Health Committee, and in view of the extent of the problem, considerable experiments have been carried out in order to check the spread of bugs. Full details will be found in the Annual Report for 1938.

The undermentioned table shows the number of houses which have been fumigated :—

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Occupied 	247	242	240	117	51
Unoccupied ...	108	104	122	65	68
TOTAL ...	355	346	262	182	119

of these 16 belong to the Local Authority, and the remainder, 103 to private individuals.

Our experiences have covered all seasons of the year, and all types of houses have been fumigated from large boarding-houses to the ordinary small working-class dwellings. Out of the 119 houses fumigated during 1939 re-infestation occurred in 7 cases only. This proportion shows an efficiency of over 94%, and considering the difficulties encountered in sealing effectively ordinary dwelling-houses and preventing a leakage of gas, such results testify as to the efficiency of HCN gas.

Sanitary Conditions of Theatres and Music Halls, etc.—

There are within the Borough the following places of Public Entertainments :—

Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cinemas (also used for Variety, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Variety, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ballrooms,	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Drome	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

and in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health (Circular No. 120 of 1920) all the premises have been inspected during the year.

From the point of view of Public Health the standard in this class of building is quite satisfactory.

THE SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During 1939, 299 shops were inspected, 14 being first inspections and 285 being re-inspections, and of these 289 were found satisfactory, and 10 contravened Section 10 in the manner specified in the under-mentioned table :—

Classified Defects.							
				None	Defective or unsatisfactory		
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	—	7		
Washing facilities	...	...	...	2	—		
Lighting	...	...	...	—	—
Ventilation	...	...	...	1	—		
Temperature	...	...	...	—	—

In consequence of the action of the Department, 8 notices were served with the approval of the Health Committee, during the year, and 50 notices were complied with by the owners or occupiers, during the same period. No legal proceedings were necessary to enforce the notices.

MILK SUPPLY.

The following is a list of the Milk Purveyors in the Borough :—

Milk Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk Shops selling by retail	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Dairymen's Premises, not including farmers	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	420
Purveyors of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	382
Purveyors of Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
No. of Producers in the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Milk Bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

At the present time 126 farmers are sending milk into the Borough by means of carriers, wholesale dealers and retailers.

It will be noticed that the number of shops retailing loose milk continues to decrease.

During the year 15 dairymen, 10 purveyors of milk, and 45 purveyors of ice cream applied for registration.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1923 and 1936.

The following licences were in operation at the end of the year 1939 :—

(a) PRODUCERS' LICENCES.							
	Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	12
(b) LICENSED BOTTLING ESTABLISHMENT.							
	Tuberculin Tested. At farms	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Accredited. At farms...	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Accredited. Other premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c) DEALERS' LICENCES.							
	Tuberculin Tested and Tuberculin Tested (Certified)						13
	Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	14
	Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	5
(d) SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES.							
	Tuberculin Tested and Tuberculin Tested (Certified)						2
	Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	2

Milk and Ice Cream Analysis.—The following statistics relate to the chemical and bacteriological examination of milk and ice-cream.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF MILK.

The number of samples taken was 196 of which 24 were below the limits prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901.

The average composition of the milk for the year was :—

Milk Fat.	Non-fatty Solids.	Water.
3·65%	8·82%	87·53%

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.

ORDINARY MILK.—48 samples of ordinary milk brought from outside the Borough for sale or consumption within the Borough and 8 samples from farms within the Borough were submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and 6 were found to be positive.

All the 6 were from farms outside the Borough.

In addition 29 samples of ordinary milk were examined for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test, and 15 samples failed to pass the Test.

Comparing with the Accredited standard, it will be observed that 15 or 51 per cent., contained bacteria below that standard.

The details are as follows :—

	No. of Samples	Found to contain T.B.
Produced outside the Borough ...	48	6
Produced inside the Borough ...	8	—

SEDIMENT TESTS.—During the year 12 samples of Milk were tested for dirt by means of the “ Minit ” Sediment Test, with the following results :—

	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
From farms outside the Borough	10 ...	— ...	2

GRADED MILKS.—The following table shows the results of samples taken under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1923 and 1936 :—

GRADE OF MILK	Outside the Borough		Inside the Borough	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) or Tuberculin Tested ...	†18	—	—	—
Accredited	2	—	*53	7
Pasteurised	5	—	16	7

†In addition 18 samples were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were reported, Tubercle Bacilli not found.

*57 Samples were examined for presence of Tubercle Bacilli and of these, Tubercle Bacilli were found in 5 samples.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.—The provisions of this order are carried out by Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Surgeons.

Other Foods.—The following is a list of shops in the Borough where food is exposed for sale :—

Where Butchers' Meat is sold	...	...	...	...	282
Meat Stalls	...	...	...	...	15
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	74
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	491
Confectioners' Shops	...	...	...	...	235
Restaurants, Cafes and Tea-rooms	...	...	...	...	224
Fruit Shops	...	...	...	...	25
Tripe Shops	...	...	...	...	123
Oyster Stalls	...	...	...	...	25
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	140

Slaughter-houses.—There exist in the Borough the Corporation Abattoirs and 3 private slaughter-houses. Daily visits are made by Meat Inspectors for inspection of meat.

The Corporation secured during the year the abolition of the 3 private slaughter-houses, one by payment of compensation, and the other two by purchase of the estates and buildings.

Thus all animals for human food are slaughtered at the Public Abattoirs, a very desirable policy.

The existing Public Slaughter-house has been taken over by the Ministry of Food and is used as a centralised slaughtering establishment for most of the district around.

The utmost co-operation exists between the officials of the Ministry and the Superintendent Meat Inspector of the Department.

TABLE SHEWING THE NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED
AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIRS.

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Cows	181	223	250	187	206	143	260	552	569	1172
Heifers	5110	3930	4061	4047	4534	5141	5979	5985	5423	5902
Bullocks	1979	2249	2091	2329	2162	2405	2608	2710	2444	2994
Bulls	49	78	58	29	29	12	46	108	67	86
Calves	1436	1002	1011	1354	1404	1203	1216	1111	1045	957
Sheep	63143	52871	61484	70014	70897	67706	71920	67878	69579	70649
Pigs	2496	2863	3880	3529	3894	4199	4695	5528	4639	5905
TOTAL	74394	63216	72835	81490	83126	80809	86724	83872	83766	87665

MILK AND DARIES ORDER, 1926.

RETURN OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE ABOVE ORDER :—

Floor surfaces of Cowsheds reformed	2
Floor surfaces of Cowsheds repaired	1
Further lighting of cowsheds	1
Underdrawing of roofs of cowsheds	1
Cowsheds abolished	11
Dairy premises abolished	1
Sterilization equipment provided	1
Minor repairs to cowsheds	5
Walls of cowshed rendered with cement	1
Milk coolers repaired	1

HOUSING.**Caravans and Wooden Structures.**

It is intended to take action against most of these structures as a result of the coming into operation of Sections 23 and 26 (8) of the Housing Act, 1936, and up to the end of the year 218 were included in representations under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936.

NUMBER OF TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS, 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

Number	Occupied	Unoccupied	Number of Adults	Children over 10 years	Children under 10 yrs.
229	177	52	261	41	54

The War has compelled the Local Authority to defer further action for the present.

Housing Statistics.**1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR—**

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 2,326
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 2,419
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 389
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 482
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (including clearance areas) ... 65
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 277

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 84

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR—**A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :**

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 20
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 9
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners . —

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 20

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit...	—

The present position with reference to these areas is as follows :—

Area	No. of Structures	No. of persons displaced	Date of Representation	Remarks
Vicarage Lane No. 1 ...	3	5	8/3/37	Structures demolished
Hawes Side Lane No. 1 ...	32	76	do.	do.
Hawes Side Lane No. 2 ...	6	13	do.	do.
Waterloo Road No. 1 ...	14	20	do.	Nearly all structures demolished
Linfield Terrace No. 1 ...	7	10	8/3/37	Structures demolished
Margate Avenue No. 1 ...	3	4	do.	do.
Stanley Road No. 1 ...	5	9	7/2/38	Confirmed by Ministry of Health
Common Edge Road No. 1	2	—	do.	do.
Common Edge Road No. 2	9	10	do.	do.
Common Edge Road No. 3	9	26	do.	do.
Daggers Hall Lane No. 1 ...	9	13	do.	do.
Vicarage Lane No. 2 ...	11	16	do.	do.
Abbey Road No. 1 ...	4	—	do.	do.
Abbey Road No. 2 ...	2	4	do.	do.
Eccleston Road No. 1 ...	3	5	do.	do.
Waterloo Road No. 2 ...	5	4	do.	do.
Waterloo Road No. 3 ...	3	4	do.	Structures demolished
Sedburgh Avenue No. 1 ...	3	2	do.	Confirmed by Ministry of Health
Bloomfield Road No. 1 ...	13	24	do.	do.
Field Street No. 1 ...	6	8	do.	do.
Harcourt Road No. 1 ...	7	2	do.	do.
Layton Road No. 1 ...	12	20	8/6/38	do.
Little Layton No. 1 ...	45	74	24/12/38	Awaiting confirmation by Ministry of Health
Little Layton No. 2 ...	5	9	do.	do.
TOTALS	218	358	—	—

Many of the structures have now been demolished and the occupants re-housed by the Local Authority.

Overcrowding.

The undermentioned tabulated statement is submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health :—

HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	... ..	158*	
	(2)	Number of families therein	... ..	161*	
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	740	
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	19	families
				97	persons
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	17	families
		(14 by Local Authority. 3 by private action).			
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases...		56	persons
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding			—
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	... ..		—

The progress which has been made in abating overcrowding since the Housing Act of 1936 came into operation may be judged from the following figures :—

Date	Outstanding Cases	
	Families	Persons
6/ 4/36	426	1,904
31/12/36	271	1,269
31/12/37	200	875½
31/12/38	159	699
31/12/39	*161 (inc. 19 new cases)	740 (inc. 97 new cases)

* 55 in Clearance Areas.

The Local Authority have provided accommodation in 14 cases, and 3 have been decrowded by the individuals own efforts.

Filtration into existing Municipal Houses has been the policy adopted by the Local Authority to secure abatement of overcrowding, and during the year 14 families were rehoused in this manner. In 3 cases the families were decrowded by private actions such as removal to larger private houses, departure from the town, etc.

Since the outbreak of the war, housing conditions have deteriorated owing to the heavy influx of billetees into the town.

Temporary Overcrowding Licences.

In pursuance of Section 61 of the Housing Act, 1936, only one licence was granted by the Local Authority permitting temporary overcrowding within the periods 1st July to 25th October, in accordance with the "Blackpool" Scale. This decrease is, no doubt, due to the outbreak of hostilities.

Housing Act, Measurements.

The total number of houses measured by the Sanitary Inspectors and Enumerators to the year end of 1939, in order to ascertain the number of persons permitted to sleep therein, under the Housing Act of 1936, was 24,428.

General Food Supply.—The following visits were paid during the year :—

Milkshops and dairies	...	...	...	...	...	441
Cowsheds in the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	435
Cowsheds out of the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	239
Ice Cream Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	183
Public Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	62
Other slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	391
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	3,797
Other shops	...	...	...	...	...	5,154

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Informal Samples			Formal Samples	
Taken	Not Genuine		Taken	Not Genuine
2	—	Almonds, Ground ...	—	—
1	—	Arrowroot ...	—	—
2	—	Bacon ...	—	—
1	—	Barley ...	—	—
1	—	Beef, Minced ...	—	—
—	—	Beef, Potted ...	1	1
—	—	Beef and Tongue ...	1	—
10	1	Bread and Butter ...	2	—
2	—	Butter ...	35	—
1	—	Cakes, Cream ...	—	—
1	—	Cherries, Glaze ...	—	—
2	—	Cheese, Lemon ...	—	—
—	—	Coffee ...	15	—
3	—	Cream ...	3	—
2	—	Cream of Tartar ...	—	—
2	—	Currants ...	—	—
3	—	Flour, Self Raising ...	—	—
1	—	Fruit, Dried ...	—	—
1	—	Glycerine and Borax ...	—	—
2	—	Ham ...	—	—
2	1	Iodine, Tinct. of ...	1	—
2	—	Jam, Raspberry ...	—	—
2	—	Jam, Strawberry ...	—	—
—	—	Lard ...	22	—
—	—	Lemonade ...	1	—
1	—	Lime Juice ...	—	—
—	—	Margarine ...	1	—
1	—	Meat, Potted ...	3	—
—	—	Milk ...	187	21
—	—	Milk, Tuberculin Tested ...	1	—
—	—	Milk, Hot ...	3	2
—	—	Milk, Sterilised ...	1	—
2	—	Mincemeat ...	—	—
2	1	Ointment, Iodoform ...	—	—
1	—	Ointment, Bleach ...	—	—
1	—	Ointment, Sulphur ...	—	—
1	—	Oil, Halibut Liver Capsules ...	—	—
1	—	Oil, Cod Liver and Malt Extract ...	—	—
—	—	Paste, Salmon ...	2	—
1	—	Peas, Tinned ...	—	—
—	—	Pepper ...	3	—
1	—	Pickles ...	—	—
1	—	Powder, Junket ...	—	—
2	—	Raisins ...	—	—
2	—	Rice ...	—	—
1	—	Sago ...	—	—
1	—	Sauce ...	—	—
1	—	Sausages ...	10	—
1	—	Semolina ...	—	—
3	—	Shrimps, Picked ...	1	—
1	—	Sugar, Demarara ...	2	—
1	—	Tapioca ...	—	—
1	—	Tea ...	—	—
—	—	Veal and Ham ...	1	—
—	—	Vinegar, Malt ...	21	1
1	—	Vinegar, Spirit ...	—	—
71	3		317	25

REMARKS.

Potted Beef. Formal Sample No. 24. Deficient of 25% of its beef solids. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 38. Deficient of 3% of its Solids—not Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 55. Deficient of 6% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 59. Deficient of 6% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Malt Vinegar. Formal Sample No. 68. Not Malt Vinegar, but a dilute solution of Acetic Acid artificially coloured. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 60. Deficient of 6% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 61. Deficient of 5% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Tincture of Iodine. Informal Sample No. 78. Sample contained an excess of 0.47% of Iodine. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 106. Contained 5% added water. Reported to Health Committee. Legal proceedings instituted. Defendant fined 20/- and 13/3 costs.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 126. Deficient of 4% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 127. Deficient of 12% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 132. Deficient of 3% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 134. Deficient of 7% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 167. Deficient of 2% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 170. Contained 10% added water. Reported to Health Committee. This sample was part of a consignment relative to Formal Sample No. M.D.A.135. (See later). Therefore, the case against the Vendor was withdrawn.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 172. Deficient of 9% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 174. Deficient of 3% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 206. Deficient of 2% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. M.D.A. 135. Deficient of 18% of its Fat, and had 3% added water. As this milk was being brought into the Blackpool Borough, legal proceedings were instituted and the defendant was fined £5, and £8 2s. 7d. costs.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 250. Deficient of 14% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 266. Deficient of 7% of its Fat. Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Iodoform. Informal Sample No. 308. Deficient of 20 of Iodoform. Reported to Health Committee. Another Informal sample of Iodoform to be taken—this sample found to be genuine.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 317. Added water 1% Reported to Health Committee. Warning letter sent to Vendor.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 323. Added water 17%. Reported to Health Committee. Follow on Sample No. 328 taken.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 328. Added water 16%. Reported to Health Committee. Legal proceedings instituted. Case dismissed on 13/3d. costs being paid by the defendant.

Milk. Formal Sample No. 330. Added water 37%. Reported to Health Committee. This sample was taken in conjunction with No. 328.

PROSECUTIONS IN 1939.

MONTH	ACT	DETAILS OF OFFENCE	RESULT
February ...	Housing Act, 1936. Section 168...	Refusal to furnish information ...	Fined 6/-
June ...	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. Section 2.	Added Water to Milk 5 per cent. ...	Fined 20/- and 13/3 costs
August ...	Merchandise Marks Act, 1887 and 1926.	False description of Meat (3 offences)	Fined £5 in each case. Total fines £15.
August ...	Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) Order, 1934.	Sale of meat not bearing Country of origin (4 offences).	Fined £1 in each case. Total fines £4.
August ...	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. Section 2.	Added water to milk. ...	Case withdrawn.
August ...	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. Section 2.	Added water to milk 3 per cent. ...	Fined £5 and £8/2/7 costs.
December ...	Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Sec. 3	Added water to milk	Case dismissed on payment of costs 13/3 by defendant.

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